



**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS**  
**The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of**  
**Homeland Security and Emergency Management**  
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A logistics trailer arrives at Concord Fire Department's Manor Station.

**LOGISTICS TRAILERS DEPLOYED AROUND STATE** – Twelve trailers containing a variety of medical and other emergency supplies are being deployed to strategic locations around New Hampshire to be ready in the event of a disease outbreak or any other sort of disaster involving mass casualties.

The trailers contain blankets, cots, gloves, masks, bandages and, of course, duct tape – anything that would be needed to quickly set up a field clinic or treatment center in response to an incident. They are available to first responders anywhere in the state. Complete instructions for emergency management directors, police and fire chiefs and other response leaders are on the N.H. Homeland Security and Emergency Management website at: <http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/bem/trailers/index.html>.

Logistics trailers are or will soon be located in Concord, Conway, Laconia, Littleton, Lincoln, Manchester, Nashua, Pittsburg, Raymond, Rochester, Salem and Unity.

**SEABROOK BEGINS NEW OPERATING CYCLE** – Seabrook Station nuclear power plant, a subsidiary of Florida Power and Light, began its 12<sup>th</sup> operating cycle on November 10<sup>th</sup>, after being off-line for more than a month for refueling. Seabrook was off the grid for 40 days and five hours, beginning at midnight on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The outage lasted nine days longer than expected. In addition to refueling the reactor, plant engineers and technicians carried out extensive maintenance work at the facility. Seabrook is currently back to 100 percent operation, producing 1,285 megawatts of power for the New England grid.

**BRIDGE OUTAGE FORCES TRAFFIC RE-ROUTING** – The Sarah Mildred Long Bridge is expected to be back in service by December 15<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. The bridge, which takes the Route 1 Bypass over the Piscataqua River between Portsmouth and Kittery, Maine, was knocked out of commission by an electrical problem on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. It is a lift bridge and is being left in the raised position to allow ship traffic to pass in Portsmouth Harbor. But that blocks road traffic on the Route 1 Bypass, including emergency vehicles and one evacuation route for Seabrook Station. Traffic is being diverted to the other two Piscataqua River bridges while New Hampshire and Maine Transportation Department officials work on fixing the bridge.

Initial estimates projected that repairs to the bridge would take about five months. The outage is believed to be caused by damage to an underwater cable carrying DC electrical current to a key bridge lift motor. Maine DOT is providing a replacement cable.

**HOSPITALS CONDUCT FIRST STATEWIDE DRILL** – All 26 of New Hampshire's acute care hospitals and four specialty hospitals conducted a statewide exercise on November 15<sup>th</sup>, designed to test their ability to respond and communicate during a large-scale emergency. The scenario involved a terrorist attack releasing disease-causing bacteria. The exercise tested the institutions' ability to communicate with each other and state and local agencies, share resources and cooperate in the exercise of emergency plans. It demonstrated that the hospitals were able to conduct a statewide bed count within 50 minutes, data that would be critical to emergency planners during a large-scale disease outbreak or other mass casualty event. The hospitals, in conjunction with the N.H. Hospital Association, are working on an after-action report that will be used to guide training and activities to improve a cooperative response to large-scale emergencies.

The exercise was funded through a grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration. In addition to the acute care hospitals and Hospital Association, New Hampshire Hospital, Manchester Veterans Affairs Medical Center, HealthSouth, Northeast Rehabilitation Hospitals, N.H. Department of Health and Human Services and N.H. Homeland Security and Emergency Management took part in the exercise.

**GRAY WEATHERMAN WINS COMMERCE DEPARTMENT AWARD** – John Jensenius, Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Gray, Maine, has received the U.S. Commerce Department’s silver medal for his work in publicizing weather hazards. Jensenius developed the Lightning Awareness Program, including starting Lightning Safety Awareness Week in 2001. The program is credited with significantly reducing lightning deaths in the United States. He was presented with the medal at a ceremony at Commerce Department headquarters in Washington, D.C., on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

**FEMA REGION I OFFICIALS MEET WITH NEW HAMPSHIRE HSEM** – A delegation of top officials from FEMA Region I met with staff members from N.H. Homeland Security and Emergency Management on November 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss regional issues, joint response strategies and state needs. Leading the FEMA group was newly-appointed Region I Director Art Cleaves, formerly head of the Maine Emergency Management Agency. Following the meeting FEMA staff were given a tour of the new state Emergency Management building, which is being completed on the grounds of the state Fire Academy.

**IT’S NEVER TOO SOON TO PLAN AHEAD** – Save the date for the 2007 local emergency preparedness conference, scheduled for Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. The location and registration information will be announced later. The conference is titled “Working Together: Effective Strategies for Emergency Planning, Response and Recovery.” It is intended for local emergency management directors, first responders, hospital and public health officials, town managers and selectmen. The conference is sponsored by the N.H. Departments of Safety and Health and Human Services, N.H. Health Officers Association, Community Health Institute and the N.H. Hospital Association.

**HSEM PARTICIPATES IN HAM RADIO DRILL** – Ham radio operators from around New Hampshire staged a drill simulating emergency communications during a pandemic. The exercise involved the transmission of messages between HSEM and stations in all 10 counties utilizing conventional radio traffic and Winlink 2000, a ham radio e-mail system that does not use the Internet. The exercise was organized by N.H. Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).

**HSEM PERSONNEL CHANGES** – Wallene Foote, an agency employee for 37 years, is retiring on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Wallie was most recently a program assistant in the Planning and Program Management Section. Also, Fallon Reed has started as a program assistant in the Operations Section. Good Luck to Wallie and Welcome Aboard to Fallon.